



Journal of the Lakehead Amateur Radio Club

HI-Q

Thunder Bay, Ontario



Volume 79

MAY 2013

Issue 5



Randy Gottfred VA3OJ (left) was honoured at our annual dinner as our “Amateur of the Year” and Robert Hansen VE3RVA (right) has been chosen as our new senator in recognition of his years of service. Congratulations to both of you!

Camp 807

Camp 807 is being held in Atikokan this year, the weekend of July 26 - 28, 2013. Please mark your calendars. Tentative plans are to hold it at Finlayson Lake Resort again, but this will be confirmed in the coming days.

Tentative plans include:

- * Tour of the Atikokan Generating Station.
- * QRP HF radio and antenna setups.
- * Canoes and kayaks to paddle.

Contact Warren ve3fyn@gmail.com



CANWARN TRAINING

will be held on June 3rd at 7pm Confederation College McIntyre building room 274

Coffee and donuts will be served.



The Monthly meeting for the Lakehead Amateur Radio Club will be taking place this Thursday May 9 at 730 pm. Room 198 McIntyre building Confederation College.

LARC SENATE

Dave Kimpton VE3AVS
 Laurie Bridgett VE3BCD
 Terry Stewardson VA3LU
 Ed Baumann VE3SNW

LARC EXECUTIVE

President - Jeff Cederwall

Vice President - vacant

**Secretary - Jeff Cederwall
 VE3JTD**

Treasurer -Paul Curtin VA3PDC

Directors

**Terry Stewardson VA3LU
 Lori Bedford VE3VAI
 Bill Unger VE3XT**

*I know this area is out of date. It will
 be updated when I get confirmation
 from the Club executive, thanks - Ed*

LARC Emergency Coordinator

Brad Harris VE3MXJ 767-0628

**ARES District Emergency
 Coordinator**

VE3FAL Fred Lesnick 577-0789

CANWARN

**VA3JMS John 767-3631
 VE3MXJ Brad 767-0628**

Public Service Events

VA3JMS John 767-3631

Accredited Examiners

**VE3FAL Fred Lesnick 577-0789
 flesnick@tbaytel.net
 VE3VAI Lori Bedford 622 – 6386
 ve3vai@tbaytel.net**

ABOUT US

The Lakehead Amateur Radio Club (LARC) is an incorporated not for profit group of amateur radio operators in the Thunder Bay area that meet for self education, community service and fellowship. Our meetings are the second Thursday of the month at room 191 McIntyre Building, Confederation College, 7:30 PM. Our postal address is 1100C Memorial Ave. Suite 184, Thunder Bay, Ontario P7B 4A3. This newsletter is published monthly except for July and August by Ed Baumann VE3SNW and questions and submissions may be emailed to ve3snw@shaw.ca

Nets in the Thunder Bay Area

Sunday AMETHYST ARES VHF NET, on VE3TBR 146.820- pl 107.2 IRLP Ref. # 9031 @ 0045Z (7:45 pm), also Cook County ARES Response Team (CARRT) net at 0100Z (8 pm) on the BWARC repeater, Grand Portage repeater - 146.655 with CTCSS 151.4

Monday SATERN NET on VE3TBR 146.820- pl 107.2 IRLP Ref. # 9032

SATERN DIGITAL NETS on **Monday & Wednesday** nights

8 pm- 14.065

9 pm- 7.065

10 pm- 3.5835

Mode :Olivia 8/500 1000Hz waterfall centre

Tuesday 2M/ LARC ARES NET on VE3YQT 147.060- @ 7:00PM ET, and after this net is the new THUNDER BAY ARES DIGITAL NET on PSK31 between 1000 & 2000 WATERFALL 145.050 FM mode @ 7:30PM (usually starts after the 2m/ ares net)

Every Day The NORTHWESTERN ONTARIO ARES NET , every evening at 8:15PM (local) on 80m 3.750Mhz (note the time does not change with daylight savings time.)

Any questions on these or other nets please feel free to contact me at my e-mail: ve3mxj@rac.ca

LARC OPEN ACCESS REPEATERS

VE3YQT(Mount Baldy)147.060 (-600) Phone Patch

VE3TBR (St. Joseph's) 146.820 pl 107.2

**442.075 (+5 MHz)pl 100
 144.390 APRS**

VE3UPP Upsala 145.470 (-600)

Global SET for 2013

Fred Lesnick VE3FAL

I once again participated in the annual Global SET for 2013. Band conditions were not good as we just only days before had a solar eruption that has caused some havoc on HF but has increased aurora activity on 6 and 2 meters and 70 cms. Every year so far that I have participated I got skunked with the majority of all traffic taking place in IARU region 1 and their use of 40 meters for communications.

I started out by monitoring 7.110 which is the IARU Region 1 and 3 calling frequency. For Cuba this is their home frequency like we use 3.750 as a Northwestern Ontario calling frequency. With nothing heard I sent an email to HQ in the UK and they gave GB4NRC permission to go to 20 meters to attempt to make contact with me. I went to 14.310 and started to monitor at 1315z when I heard a digital signal come through the air, it was weak but I was able to copy the Olivia 16/500 call come from across the pond. Steve was weak and I was only copying partials of his text due to the heavy fading, he could copy 50% of every transmission that I sent to him but was not enough to pass any messages. We continued to monitor the frequency and attempted to pass traffic right up until 1500z closing time. I was able to make one US contact while monitoring and sending out the CQ Global SET announcement and that was W1CE Alan in CT.

Over across the pond they had a very successful SET with many messages being passed back and forth using all modes. But the digital modes proved to be the most effective on HF during this event. I attempted to work Arnie Coro and the group in Cuba on 14.072 PSK31 from CO2FRC but had no such luck. We are hoping that during Session II those who did not get to handle or send traffic will get that chance. Below is the report from Steve on today's session:

Hi All,

I was asked to concentrate GB4NRC HQ on 40m voice and it was initially slow-going with not all that brilliant conditions on the band. Strong persistent Spanish rag-chewers were disappointing, dead on the CoA. There were quite a few non-exercise callers who simply did not listen to the CQ preamble, but I managed to extract several voice ~messages from I and F.

Then, at about the time G0VPJ started reporting data problems, I heard some PSKR-125 and took a check. These were from various GlobalSET F stations and several FLMSG messages were received although some with mild checksum errors.

By mutual agreement we moved over to Olivia 16/500 after which many error-free messages were received. It was particularly pleasing that so many messages were taken 100% error-free from stations that were trying to call me on voice but conditions did not allow good enough contact except on data. Quite thrilling to see FLMSG doing its thing and bursting into life on the screen as each message rolled in.

Very good to see Tim EI2KA relaying messages from Z35BY. Great to have G8BLS riding 'shot-gun' as he could hear some Europeans I could not.

Ended the session by attempting contact with Fred VE3FAL on 20m Olivia. About 50% copy over a marginal path. Will take up further tests with Fred later - thank you for persevering OM!

Summary - 20 contacts, 14 IARU messages successfully received.

Log is already with G0DUB - awaiting repository info for the messages received.

I have a cut n' paste of the whole session from the FLDIGI screen if anyone would like to view it.

Thoughts:

The IARU format worked well in my opinion. But just a few stations were a touch confused about some of the fields.

The beauty of the data mode operating is that it takes the strong French accents out of the equation!

EI2KA's operating procedure was immaculate and made life just so comfortable.

The chat room played me about quite a bit - threw me out about 6 times. Will need to check why this is, as others not suffering it seems! However, its use was a boon. I felt that it worked really well with G0VPJ and myself, as the two main 40m operators, able to keep in touch to coordinate our respective voice and data operations. I cross-referenced to John's data station in my CQ calls.

As is oft-opined, I really was impressed that my voice operation was perfectly happy on LSB bang on the CoA, with John's data on USB on exactly the same dial frequency plus 1000Hz audio offset. Under this arrangement, we both effectively occupied the CoA on our respective sidebands but without causing any mutual interference. I'd be interested in John's view of this, but I think it could go forward as a firmer recommendation about use of the CoA's that by employing opposing sidebands the voice and data operations can coexist and really cement the centre of activity for both modes.

As I was operating alone, managing the saving of the *.i2s message files resulting from reception in FLMSG had to be quick (as new messages were already coming in!) and intelligent (in terms of naming convention). I was glad I had pre-made a directory structure.

The naming convention provided by FLMSG struck me as not all that conducive to chronological storage, because the callsign is put at the start of the string meaning that messages from one station are bunched together. I would prefer the DTG to come first, thus the messages would be stored in order of arrival. Maybe this is just my personal preference, however. A couple of times, activity was so fast that I forgot to click on the date and time of arrival (at the bottom of the pad) before saving the message, but at least I was able to correct this afterwards.

It occurred to me afterwards that instead of saving the messages locally, I could have saved them in a shared Dropbox folder which would then have allowed a support operator to open, taste the precedence and act upon the messages wherever they were in the world. So, thinking to a longer event with hundreds of messages, this support role becomes pretty damn important and if this can be done at a distance by a sane person away from the heat of the radio room I'd like to see this explored on a future occasion.

I'm sorry that I cannot be available for the 2nd session on 20th but I'm currently due to be working. If the time of this gets shifted I may still be able to participate, but I think it would be safer if you assume I cannot attend.

Regards

Steve G4HPE

Global Simulated Emergency Test – Saturday April 13th and Saturday April 20th 2013

IARU Region 1 invites the HQ-Stations of all IARU member societies and stations of Emergency Communications Groups to participate in a Global Simulated Emergency Test on

Session 1 - Saturday April 13th, 2013 11.00 – 15.00 Local Time and

Session 2 - Saturday April 20th, 2013 Times as shown below.

The operation will take place on and near the emergency Centre-of-Activity (CoA) frequencies on 80, 40, 20, 17 and 15 metres (+-QRM).

This event is different as messages will be passed in both directions.

Session 1 – Messages to be sent to Regional HQ stations.

Session 2 – Messages will be sent from Regional HQ stations back to those taking part.

The timing of the event is different to allow stations the best chance of sending and receiving their messages and should still reduce any inter-region interference that may occur.

The objectives of the test are;

1. increase the common interest in emergency communications.
2. test how usable the CoA frequencies are across ITU regions.

3. create practices for international emergency communication and
4. practice the relaying of messages using all modes.

So, please remember that this is not a contest; it is an emergency communications exercise to develop the skills we will need to provide an international emergency network.

Messages may be passed on voice (SSB), Data or CW modes as detailed below.

Voice mode

Each IARU Region will have a HQ station operating on voice as follows:

Region 1 – GB4NRC (Session 1 – 1100-1500 Local Time – Session 2 – 1000-1400UTC)

Region 2 – CO2FRC (Session 1 – 1100-1500 Local Time – Session 2 – 1400-1800UTC)

Region 3 – 9M8DB (Session 1 – 1100-1500 Local Time – Session 2 – 0200-0600UTC)

HQ stations will be QRV at the times shown above in their QTH on all CoA frequencies appropriate to their region +/- QRM as shown below.

Region 1	Region 2	Region 3
3760	3750 or 3895	3600
7110	7060, 7240 or 7290	7110
14300	14300	14300
18160	18160	18160
21360	21360	21360

Stations intending to participate are requested to register through their IARU Regional/National Emergency Communications Co-Ordinators as follows;

Region 1 - <http://bit.ly/htGHy>

Region 2 - <http://www.iaru-r2.org/emergencies/>

Region 3 - <http://www.iaru-r3.org/dcom/r3dcom-com.htm>

If your country does not have a National Co-Ordinator then please contact the regional co-ordinator via the details on the websites.

A list of participating stations is available at <http://bit.ly/W90DGw> . Participating stations should call 'CQ GLOBALSET' giving their callsign and organization (ARES, RAYNET, NETMAR etc.).

FOR SALE

Kenwood HF TS-450SAT for sale. It comes with a Kenwood MC-60 desk mic and a Astron RS-20a power supply.



Also a Yaesu VX-8DR tri-band HT. Comes with the speaker mic with the GPS, house charger and 12v charger.



contact **Carl Storry** ve3dg@icloud.com

Random Photos from the Annual Dinner



Lakehead Amateur Radio Club

April 2013 Treasurers Report

Balance April 01 2013 \$1,458.66

Income

Total Income \$0.00

Expenses

April 03	UPS Store , tax on mail box	\$35.75
April 03	Insurance Extention on policy	\$79.92
April 10	Tbay tel Trailer cell	\$0.57
April 30	Service Charge	<u>\$0.50</u>

Total Expenses \$116.74

Balance April 30 2013 \$1,341.92

Trailer Account

		Previous Balance	\$653.36
Income			
March 15 2013	Dividend	\$0.24	
April 30 2013	Interest	<u>\$0.05</u>	
Total			\$653.65

Expenses	<u>\$0.00</u>
Total Expenses:	\$0.00
<hr/>	
Balance in Trailer Account	\$653.65

Term Account

Balance April 01 2013	\$2,025.76
Interest April 09 2013	\$0.67
Balance April 31 2013	\$2,026.43

Paul Curtin VA3PDC

Treasurer

North East Ontario Regional Directors Report for May, 2013



Once again RAC will be at Dayton. This year our booth will be twice as wide compared to last year. In 2012 we had so many visitors that we often overflowed into the aisle. This year we should not have that problem. If you are going to Dayton please stop by the booth and say hello especially if you have questions about RAC. President, Geoff VE4BAW as well as several Directors and other Executive will be there to answer any questions you have on how your organisation is run. If you're a RAC member let us know and we have a small gift for you. If you're not a member it's even more important for you to stop by and say hello. I personally would like to try and explain why RAC is so important to all Canadi-

an Amateurs.

On May 1st I attended the first Go to Webinar for the Atlantic Region hosted by President Bawden, VE4BAW and Director Ev Price, VO1DK. It is part of our outreach campaign to increase communications with all Amateurs across Canada. In addition to Ev and Geoff in attendance were Deputy Director Morgan, Atlantic Region Presidents, and other invited guests to attend a presentation describing where RAC was, and more importantly where it is going.

If you are a President, Section Manager or part of the ARES Executive in North East Ontario and want to attend a similar meeting let me know. It's scheduled for the last week of May and of a similar format to the Atlantic Region. It will be 1 ½ to 2 hours maximum duration. Please let other Club Executives know about this. Thanks.

For now this is open to Executive members of groups but in the future we hope to open it to all RAC members. But if you wish, I am prepared to have a Skype meeting with your club. Let me know.

One of my favourite aspects of Amateur Radio is to operate QRP from the field so last weekend I was participating in QRPTTF and had a great time and even managed to work W2M, which was commemorating the birthday of Sam Morse. A fellow QRP'er here in Thunder Bay, Mike, VE3EDX showed me a great hint. My antenna is 9 metres of wire that is end fed and tossed into a tree with two 5 metre radials. The radials always kink up and never lay out fully extended. Mike uses corn cob holders, those little bright yellow plastic devices with 2 prongs to hold the end of the radials. Light and bright so no one will trip on them and pull the rig off the table. And if you go to the field in a corn farm you're doubly prepared. Thanks Mike.

If you have any questions or concerns please email me at ve3xt@rac.ca

Bill VE3XT
North East Ontario Regional Director
Radio Amateurs of Canada

May 2013

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9 LARC MEETING 1900 ConCollege	10	11	12 
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20 Victoria Day 	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

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